



THROUGH HAZEL EYES

By Hazel Brannon Smith

Everyone in Durant is given a cordial invitation by the local theatres to be on hand in Railroad Park on Front Street tomorrow afternoon to greet the visiting Hollywood celebrities. The time is 3:45.

Whether you are a movie fan or not you might get a bang out of seeing these people scheduled to appear in our home town—and find they are human beings pretty much as you and me.

They will be our guests and I'm sure we won't let the tradition of Southern hospitality suffer in Durant.

Brother Day is giving an open invitation to everyone in the community to visit the Baptist Church on Wednesday, December 19, at 7:00 p. m. to see the film on the Pilgrimage which features the life and teachings of Jesus.

The principal character in this wonderful story is Nelson Leigh, a native Mississippian, who left this country as a child and lived many years in England.

The Lexington football coach, Woodson Earl, who is a very fine young man and a wonderful leader of young people, paid a mighty fine tribute to the members of the Tiger football squad of Durant this week in an address before the members of the Lexington Rotary Club.

Coach Earl, all of the football boys, managers and cheerleaders were guests of the Lexington club at their weekly luncheon. In discussing the season just past Coach Earl said: "While we always hate to lose we must give credit where credit is due—and on that night (the night we played Durant) certainly Durant had a better ball club. They outplayed us."

Ebenezer will be the scene of a unique event in the running of the eighth annual field trial Monday.

Visitors from five states will be in our midst to participate in the trial.

If you are interested in dogs and hunting you should make a point to take Monday off and go to Ebenezer where visitors will be welcome.

Keep

Your

CHRISTMAS

SHOPPING

DOLLARS

AT HOME

Where They

Will Come

Back To

You!

THE DURANT NEWS

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Principals In Holmes Murder Case



Above are shown the principal characters in developments during the past week in the death of the late W. W. Wynn, Holmes County legislator-elect, whose body was found under his overturned jeep on Sunday, Oct. 14, in a 30-foot ravine about one and one-half miles from his home in Cruger.

Left above is Holmes County

Sheriff Ellis E. Wynn, nephew of the dead man, whose investigation led to the arrest of Travis Butler, top right, on November 8th, and to the arrest two days later of the latter's half-brother, Tommie Butler, shown immediately below Travis.

In an oral confession made Friday night to Sheriff Wynn, Travis Butler confessed to the

murder of Mr. W. W. Wynn at a spot near the latter's home, shown left above, and implicated his half-brother, Tommie.

Below is the ravine near Mr. W. W. Wynn's home where his body was found by a searching party headed by his nephew. It was first believed the death of the 73-year old Holmes man was accidental.

Death Of W. W. Wynn Was Murder - Not Accident, According To Confession Made By Travis Butler

26-Year Old Man Implicates Brother In Crime Friday

By Hazel Brannon Smith

The October Death of Mr. Will W. Wynn, 73, of Cruger, legislator-elect of Holmes County, was not an accident as first believed, but cold-blooded, deliberate murder, according to an oral confession made by Travis Butler Friday night in the Holmes county jail to Sheriff Ellis E. Wynn and confirmed by Travis in an interview Sunday afternoon with this reporter.

Travis Butler's confession implicated his half-brother, Tommie, 41, previously arrested for questioning about the crime and later released on bond. He was arrested again Saturday and now both men are charged with murder and held without bond awaiting the action of the Grand Jury in April.

According to his confession, Travis Butler, 26, was forced to accompany his brother, Tommie, to Mr. Wynn's home near Cruger where the murder was committed.

According to his confession a piece of fence post was used for the fatal blow.

No motive was given for the crime.

Found October 14

The body of the late Mr. Wynn, uncle of the Holmes Sheriff, was found Sunday, October 14, beneath his overturned jeep, following a search of two days, in a deep ravine about 1½ miles from his home. He had been missing from home several days. It was presumed at the time his jeep had gone off the bridge in an accident.

A planter and surveyor by profession, his absence from home had gone unnoticed for some time as it was customary for him to be away from home several days at a time.

At the time of the supposed accident Sheriff Wynn made note of some strange factors involved in the case and, quietly, started an investigation which eventually resulted in the arrest of Travis Butler on November 6, and two days later the arrest of his brother, Tommie as an accessory. Tommie was held until November 24 when he was released on bond.

Following Travis' confession Friday night Tommie was picked up Saturday by Greenwood police on a warrant issued by Holmes county authorities charging him with murder. He denied having any connection with the crime.

Woman's Club Sponsors Christmas Lighting Contest

The Woman's Club of Durant is sponsoring the Christmas lighting contest again this year. Since there were so many enthusiastic entrants last year, this year should be even bigger, club officials stated.

Prizes will be given for the best indoor tree, visible from the street, outdoor tree, doorway, window, commercial, visible from the street and general decoration. The entrance fee for residences will be 50c and commercial \$1.00. There will be a deduction of 50c on the December light bill for all entrants. Lights must be kept burning each night from 6 until 10 p. m., December 20 through 27.

Any information regarding this contest may be obtained from Mrs. Kenneth McRae, chairman, at the McRae Drug Store.

Methodist Young People Hold District Meeting

The Sub District meeting of the Methodist Youth Fellowship was held at the Methodist Church in Lexington, Monday night at 7:30. Among those present were several pastors and MYF workers, the district secretary, Rev. James T. McCafferty, Jr., of Vaiden, Mrs. Maxwell of Pickens and young people from Durant, Goodman, Pickens and Tchula.

An inspirational program was given by the Durant MYF, recreation by the Goodman group, and refreshments by the Lexington hosts. Mrs. Maxwell played and sang several solos which were enjoyed by everyone. There were 77 present.

Mrs. Fanny M. Wilson Durant Loses Opener In Basketball

Mrs. Heggie's Mother Passes After Long Illness Sunday

Services were held Monday for Mrs. Fanny May Wilson, in the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. S. Heggie at Durant. Mrs. Wilson died Sunday afternoon, December 2 from a heart attack in the District II Hospital. She had been ill for several months.

The Rev. T. A. Filgo, Methodist pastor and the Rev. C. M. Day, Baptist pastor, officiated. Burial was in Mizpah cemetery with Southern in charge of arrangements.

Born in January, 1886, Mrs. Wilson was 65. She was a member of the Methodist church and had a wide circle of friends in Durant where she frequently visited.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. W. S. Heggie, Durant, four sisters, Mrs. E. L. Zeigler, Pickens, Mrs. Walter Rainer, Belzoni, Mrs. H. S. Moorehead, Greenwood, and Mrs. Noah Hill, of St. Louis, Missouri. Four brothers, Mr. W. C. Smith, Benton, R. L. Smith, Benton, Dr. P. M. Smith, Tchula, Grady Smith, of Greenwood. Miss Ann Heggie, a granddaughter, also survives.

Pallbearers were Edgar Howell, W. S. Odom, Louis Longnotti, W. P. Taylor, Harry O'Call, Foster McCullar, Ed Guess, Walter Durham, Calvin King, Marcell Love, Dr. J. W. Howell, Dr. C. E. Patton, Henry McKenzie, Raymond Lovin, all of Durant, and Bill Tucker of Yazoo City.

Girls And Boys Play Lexington Tuesday Evening

Durant's basketball teams, boys and girls, journeyed to Lexington Tuesday night in the season's opener, only to be downed by hard-hitting teams. The boys' team, 33-28, for the girls—while the boys lost 39-34, Lexington girls took an early lead which they were able to maintain until the final minutes of the game. High scores for Lexington were Betty Rabb with 7 field goals and 3 free shots for a total of 17 points and Patti Adams with 10 points.

Shirley Mitchell was outstanding for Durant with 19 points.

The boys game was a hard fought one and close all the way. Lexington took a quick lead but Durant closed the gap right before the half. The half-time score was Lexington 17-Durant 15. The score was tied several times during the last quarter, but some good shots put the Hornets five points ahead. The final score was 39-34 in favor of Lexington. W. L. Lipsey was high point man for the Hornets with 16 points. He was followed by Shepherd with 9. High scorer for the losers was Bunch with 10 points.

The next game with Lexington will be played on the Durant home court on December 18.

Will Conduct Revival Here



The Rev. and Mrs. Rushing will conduct a revival at the Church of the Nazarene in Durant beginning Monday, Dec. 10, and continuing through Dec. 19th.

Services will be held each evening at 7:00 and the public is given a cordial invitation to worship.

The Rev. J. O. Borden, Nazarene pastor, will assist in the music and, with special songs, both are outstanding musicians and singers.

Rousing Welcome Planned For Hollywood Stars In Durant Friday Afternoon At 3:45

Everyone Invited To 30-Minute Program In Park

Everything is in readiness to give a rousing welcome to the Hollywood celebrities who will visit Durant tomorrow, Friday, at 3:45 p. m., according to G. H. Odom, of Odom Brothers Theatre. A 30-minute program will be given in Front Street park and everyone is given a cordial invitation.

Odom's theatre and the Strand Theatre of Durant are co-sponsors of the appearance of movie stars David Brian and Preston Foster who are part of a group of actors, producers, directors and writers touring the country in as a part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the movie industry.

Mrs. Foster will accompany

Greenville Visitors
Mrs. Clay Gunn and daughter, Mrs. Frank Burrell and son, Sammie, were Greenville visitors on Wednesday.

Visits In Kosciusko
Mrs. W. A. Henley and Mrs. Walter Odom, Miss Ruth Howard were Kosciusko visitors Tuesday afternoon.

J. S. Cook Draws Fine For Setting Fires To Park

J. S. Cook of Durant was fined \$100 and 30 days in Justice of the Peace E. J. Jones' court in Durant Sunday afternoon for "maliciously setting fires to woods."

Highway Patrolmen Skelton and Blanton were out on patrol on Highway 51 Sunday when they saw Cook setting the fire on Holmes County State Park property near the park entrance on the highway.

The two officers turned around, according to reports, and came

back to catch Cook setting the fires.

The maximum fine for maliciously setting fires, according to officials, is \$500 and three months in jail. For a second offense the maximum penalty is always asked.

For setting fire or trying to destroy state property, officials said, offenders may get up to five years confinement.

Piano Recital At Sunday School

The piano pupils of the Durant school, grades 4 through 7, will play Sunday afternoon at 3. The public is invited.

Barbara Gibson Leads Christmas Parade In Lexington Wednesday

Durant's Barbara Gibson, Forestry Queen of Mississippi, led the first annual Christmas parade sponsored by the Lexington Lion Club in Lexington Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Gibson graced the parade in the parade float decorated by the Lexington Advertiser and given by its editor.

The people of Lexington gave a very gracious welcome to the Durant girl who has captured state honors for her beauty and charm.